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January 24, 1997

Dear Fellow Citizens:

I am pleased to endorse the Office of State Parks Master Plan that will serve as a guide for future development of our parks through the year 2012.

This comprehensive planning document, the first in over a decade, includes national planning trends, extensive statistical analysis for land usage and its economic impact, and the visionary expertise of the staff within the Office of State Parks.

The plan's goals, which address an ambitious agenda, has at its heart additional recreation areas, commemorative and preservation areas, and the promotion and development of cultural and historical sites for all visitors to enjoy.

I commend the committed efforts and dedication of the 200 employees of the Office of State Parks. For it is through this mission of service that the state of Louisiana and her citizens become the proud beneficiaries of all that is vital in our state.

With kind regards, I am

Murphy J. "Mike" Foster, Jr

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OFFICE OF THE JEUTCHART GOVERNOR

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Dear Fellow Citizens.

In keeping with our directive to further enhance the quality of life for citizens and visitors in our wonderfully diverse state, the Office of State Parks has prepared the framework that will carry the park system into the next century.

Louisiana can take pride in those areas that have been preserved for recreational, historical and preservation purposes. The 1997-2012 State Parks Master Plan strives to develop new park holdings while improving existing sites through prudent fiscal and resource management. New objectives, established during a planning process begun in 1993, now have action plans charting the department's course for the next 15 years.

We accept the responsibility for oversight of these valuable public assets and appreciate the opportunity to serve in the public trust.

Kathleen & Blanco Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Lieutenant Governor

PHONE (SCAL 247-) COS - FAX (SD4-342-1949)

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